

REMARKS

Claims 1-19, inclusive, were presented for examination upon filing. By Office Action mailed June 9, 2003, claims 1, 6-8, 11, 13, 18-19 were rejected under section 102(b) on Buttrill, Jr., ('038 of record); claims 2, 4, 5, 9, 14-15 and 17 were rejected under section 103(a) as unpatentable over '038 in view of '376 of record. The Examiner noted allowable subject matter appearing at claims 3, 10 and 16.

An objection to the specification is cured by correction of a typographical error appearing in paragraph [0004] on page 1 at line 29.

Prior Art Rejections

The '038 reference is directed to obtaining precise integrated intensity for a specific selected ion mass. Such measurement is obtained with particular attention to avoiding spectral distortion arising from space charge effects. A selected ion storage technique is taught whereby all masses are resonantly ejected from the ion trap except for the selected ion mass. ("Mass" is understood to represent the parameter m/q for convenience.) Thereupon the selected stored ion is separately ejected from the trap to the ion detector by application of a pulse to the end caps of the trap. The reference suggests using this measurement of ion intensity to determine an optimum ion accumulation time for a second measurement of the same selected ion mass presence in the trap. While the '038 reference employs a pre-computed waveform for selective ion storage, there are no suggestion for the CID operational aspect of the present invention. The Examiner correctly recognizes that this is the case in his objection directed to claim 3. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2 and 3 therein.

The same issues are presented by claims 8 and 13. Applicant has amended these claims in a similar manner by incorporation of the limitations of claims 9-10 into claim 8 and incorporation of the limitations of claims 14-16 into claim 13.

Applicant has amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's explicit suggestion and applicant's own independent review of the content and claims of the application. It is believed that the claims are in form for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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